in writing, signed by two or more inhabitant householders, that any dwelling-house or building is in a filthy and unwholesome condition, or that there are upon such premises any foul and offensive cesspool, drain, gutter, or ditch, or any accumulations of filth, or that swine are so kept as to be a nuisance or injurious to health, the authorities shall examine or cause the premises to be examined; and if upon examination, or upon a medical certificate of two legally qualified practitioners, it appears that the nuisance exists, the public authority shall make complaint before two justices, who are required to make order for the removal of such nuisance. The amended provisions contained in this Act should be early considered, promulgated, and enforced, especially those for the proper cleansing of open and foul ditches near habitations, by the labourers under the direction of surveyors or trustees of highways."

NOTES IN THE PROVINCES.

THE Portland Prison is so far completed as to be capable of accommodating about 350 convicts for work on the breakwater, whose immediate arrival is now anticipated. The building already forms a very prominent object in the island.——The piling of the breakwater at the Dover harbour of refuge has been carried out to 5 feet water at low spring tides, and the masonry forming the pier on either hand is in rapid progress.——A new masonic hall has been recently erected at Newport, Isle of Wight.——The new church of Llanfihangel, Abercowin, was consecrated on Tuesday week. It has been built at the entire expense of Mr. Richard Richards, of Tregadwgan.——At Tavistock a new Guildhall has lately been erected in the castellated early English style, from a design by Mr. Jones, architect, prepared in accordance with the old portion of the abbey, on the site of which it has been built. The hall is 53 feet long and 23 broad, with 260 sittings, or standing room for 500. There is a police station beneath it, the cells of which are heated in winter by a hot-water apparatus, and ventilated by valves. The hall and station are fitted up for gas. There are other apartments, one 21 feet square, and the tower is to be converted into an observatory. The whole has been done at the expense of the Duke of Bedford, who lately drained the town and supplied it with water, fire-plugs, &c.——The chancel of Frome Church has been repaired under the auspices of the Marchioness of Bath. The great west window now displays a design in coloured glass, obtained by subscription. Three monumental windows of stained glass have also been placed in the church. ——The stone spire of St. Mary's Church, Snettisham, Norfolk, which is used by mariners as a sea-mark, being 105 feet in height, and with the church reaching an altitude of 177 feet, has recently been restored, the upper part to the extent of several feet reset, with an iron cross, &c., on its summit.——It is estimated that eight persons, who have erected and endowed churches at their own cost during the present year, have together contributed 50,000*l.* to the Established Church.——On 5th inst. the foundation-stone was laid of a school and teacher's house at Winterton, Norfolk. Mr. Hume, M.P., entertained a numerous party of the friends of the undertaking at his seat in the neighbourhood, and the ceremony of foundation was performed by Miss Hume, in the presence of a large assemblage of the villagers. Mr. Kerr, of Norwich, officiated as architect of the building. The expense is partly met by grants from the Committee of Council and the National Society, the site being given freehold by Mr. Hume.——The first buildings of the Britannia-terrace, Yarmouth, were commenced on Wednesday week. A proposition is on foot to continue an esplanade and carriage-drive from Britannia-terrace to Victoria-terrace.——The foundation stone of a new Baptist chapel, to be erected at Barnsley, was laid on Friday week.——A new church is to be built for the townships of Moss and Fenwick, in the parish of Campsall. The intention is supported by Miss Brooke, of Gateforth House, Mr. G. C. Yarborough, Mr. F. B. Frank, and other landed proprietors.

CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL, COURTENAY-STREET, PLYMOUTH.

MR. WIGHTWICK, ARCHITECT.

CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL, COURTENAY-STREET, PLYMOUTH.

THE accompanying engraving represents the street front of a chapel just erected in Courtenay-street, Plymouth, and belonging to the denomination of Congregational Dissenters; the Rev. T. C. Hine having undertaken the responsibility of its erection by voluntary subscription. It is 65 feet long by 44 feet 6 inches in the clear; and when furnished with its proposed galleries, will hold about 900 persons. The façade only is by Mr. Wightwick, the body of the chapel being erected under the superintendence of Mr. Dwelley. The style is Anglo-Norman: the dressings are of Caen stone: the plain walling, of Plymouth marble, or lime stone. The cost of the building, apart from that of the land, is about 2,000*l.*

A large chapel for the Baptists, of Italian architecture, has recently been erected by Mr. Wightwick, also two spacious Episcopal chapels—one in the Tudor Gothic, the other in the Roman style.

THE ANNIVERSARY EXHIBITION OF THE CORNWALL POLYTECHNIC SOCIETY comprises—In the mechanical department, 53 articles; architectural and mechanical drawings, 128; sculpture, modelling, and paintings, 168; fancy work, 68; school productions, 149; and oil paintings for exhibition, 61.

GREAT CHAIN.—At Stourbridge, lately, Messrs. Bailey manufactured for a Liverpool firm a link chain for an incline: length, 2,400 yards, or rather more than 1¼rd mile; and weight, about 14 tons. It was removed by eight horses.

VENTILATION OF SEWERS.

AT a late meeting of the City Sewers Commission, a Mr. Elliott proposed as something quite new,—

"Premising that the sewers are constructed on the best principle, regularly flushed, with proper receptacles for discharges, and all gully holes, street and surface drainage, to be properly trapped,—that chimneys be erected at necessary and convenient distances, their interior hollow and of an inverted funnel shape, their height to be regulated by circumstances. At their tops, or other apertures, a jet of ignited burning gas may be kept constantly directed against their openings."

Now, this same plan was proposed in THE BUILDER some years ago, and has since been re-urged in various quarters.

The editor of the *Army and Navy Register* has just now *re*-discovered the same plan, and suggests that the gas lamp-posts made hollow should be used for the purpose. He remarks that,—

"The whole of the parish gas lamps might, by the adoption of this plan, become the best disinfecting medium, and the expense would be comparatively trifling compared with the great public good and preservation of the health of the poor in large towns. The only objection that can be made against the adoption of columns, which would prove useful and ornamental as gas lamp-posts, is the advantage possessed by gratings of allowing the sewers being flushed with rain water entering through them. The columns could, however, by a very simple plan, be made to open at the bottom on the side against which the

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